

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 /022 W
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R 020950Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4542

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 1183

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, IN, CE

SUBJECT: HINES TDY FOR COLOMBO CONFERENCE

REF: (A) STATE 66627, (B) NEW DELHI 4329

1. DECISION ON PRECISE TIMING OF "HINES" TDY HERE FOR
NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IS OBVIOUSLY ONE FOR DEPARTMENT
AND NEW DELHI.

2. WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT, HOWEVER, THAT JULY 25
DATE PROPOSED BY NEW DELHI WOULD GIVE HINES ONLY TWO
WORKING WEEKS PRIOR TO OPENING OF FIRST PHASE OF CONFERENCE
IN WHICH TO MAKE CONTACTS AMONG LOCAL PRESS
AND OTHER FRIENDLY EMBASSIES. THIS WILL BE PERIOD IN
WHICH BOTH CATEGORIES OF CONTACTS ARE LIKELY TO BE INCREASINGLY
PREOCCUPIED WITH CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS
AND LESS AMENABLE TO NORMAL SOCIAL CONTACTS.

3. WE WOULD PREFER TO SEND NOTE TO SRI LANKA MDFA
IN NEAR FUTURE ASKING FOR EXTENSION OF VISA FACILITIES
(WHICH REQUIRE COLOMBO APPROVAL AFTER JUNE 1) TO HINES THROUGH
SRI LANKAN HIGH COMMISSION IN DELHI,
SPECIFYING DATES OF STAY ON ISLAND. NOTE WOULD BE
HAND DELIVERED TO APPROPRIATE MDFA OFFICER WITH ORAL
EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE OF VISIT. SEEMS TO US THE
SOONER WE MAKE REQUEST, MORE NORMAL THE PROCEDURE
WILL APPEAR.

VAN HOLLEN

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